



CJIS Link

The power to connect, to identify, to know.

Volume 13, No. 3, September 2011

Mobile fingerprint devices and rapid search of RISC empower officers on the street



Around 8 p.m. on August 26, a Florida state trooper patrolling near Ormond Beach made a routine traffic stop of a car he witnessed driving with its headlights off. As the trooper approached the car, he smelled marijuana. Following protocol, the trooper asked the driver for his license. As the driver gave him a South Carolina license, the alert trooper noticed the driver had a bank card with a different name.

Using a mobile hand-held device that allowed the trooper to instantly fingerprint the driver, the trooper submitted a Rapid ID transaction that searched the Florida state system and the FBI's Repository for Individuals of Special Concern (RISC). Through a RISC search, advanced fingerprint matching software compares a subject's fingerprints against those of Wanted

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CJIS Link going Online

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With this edition of the *CJIS Link*, the CJIS Division is taking its newsletter exclusively online to the FBI's Web site, <www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis>.

The *CJIS Link* provides CJIS system users from across the law enforcement, national security, and intelligence communities with information about system enhancements, training opportunities, policy changes, and success stories such as the latent fingerprint "Hit of the Year."

With the switch to the electronic format, readers of The *CJIS Link* can sign up for e-mail alerts to let them know when new editions are available. Live links to related content will allow readers to "click-and-go" to find out more on topics presented.

Visit <www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis> to view this edition, related content, and, most importantly, sign up for e-mail alerts.

As the Division makes this transition with The *CJIS Link*, we welcome your feedback, success stories, and article suggestions to help us make this newsletter even better! E-mail *CJIS Link* staff at <cjis_comm.leo.gov>.

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FBI's 'Hit of the Year' video wins award

Highlights successes of latent services to solve crimes

Each year since 2007, law enforcement agencies have shared their successes using the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) latent services to assist in solving major crime cases, and CJIS staff selects one case as the "Hit of the Year."

A video highlighting *The 2010 Latent Hit of the Year* was awarded the 2011 Silver Award of Distinction in the category of government relations at the 17th Annual Communicator Awards. To view the video, visit http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/fingerprints_biometrics/iafis/iafis_latent_hit_of_the_year.

After viewing this video, a law enforcement official shared information about the following: On August 3, 2005, an elderly Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, woman was found stabbed to death, and her home had been ransacked. Investigators developed several latent prints from a wrist watch box on a stand near a window where the offender appeared to have entered the home. They submitted the prints to the Pennsylvania State Police's Wyoming Regional Crime Laboratory.

A sergeant with the Pennsylvania State Police searched the latent prints against the state's Automated Fingerprint Identification System, but the latent prints did not match any in the state system. However, he then submitted the prints for a search against the



crime solved thanks to latent technology

IAFIS. Within 5 hours, the IAFIS returned a response with 20 possible matches. From these results, the sergeant was able to make a positive identification of the latent prints.

Investigators from the Wilkes-Barre Police Department confronted the suspect, who confessed to the murder and stealing a large amount of money before leaving the scene. On February 10, 2006, the suspect made a plea bargain with prosecutors to avoid the death penalty. He pled guilty to first-degree murder, robbery, and additional charges. He was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Law enforcement officials with similar stories that they would like to be considered for the next "Hit of the Year" can e-mail the case details to www.fbilatenthit@leo.gov.

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Persons, Known or Appropriately Suspected Terrorists, Sex Offender Registry subjects, and other persons of special interest. The RISC system returned a "red" response within 46 seconds, notifying the trooper of an outstanding warrant for the subject within the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). The driver was wanted by the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office in Georgia in connection with a murder and aggravated assault. The warrant had been outstanding for 8 years.

Under the guidance of the CJIS Division's Next Generation Identification (NGI) Program, several law enforcement agencies piloted the RISC rapid search capability for more than 3 years with hundreds of success stories like the traffic stop in Florida.

With the recent full deployment of the program, hand-held identification devices can be used nationwide and will decrease officer risk when dealing with subjects presenting false or no identification. The matching process is entirely automated, enabling an officer to receive a response within seconds. The on-scene rapid search by RISC is just one more tool the CJIS Division is using to provide vital criminal justice information in a timely way to the FBI's partners in the law enforcement, national security, and intelligence communities.

For information about the RISC, contact the NGI Program Office at (304) 625-3437 or visit the NGI information page at www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/ngi.htm.

License plate reader technology enhances the identification, recovery of stolen vehicles

As law enforcement agencies take advantage of advanced technologies, the opportunities for using data from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) to help with investigations increases greatly.

One of these technologies, License Plate Readers (LPRs), captures license plate images by using external trigger signals. LPRs may be mounted on patrol vehicles or placed in fixed sites such as at border crossings, interstate highway on-ramps, and toll booth plazas.

LPRs read retroflective and non-retroflective license plates, capturing plate images and automatically generating and archiving lane and date information as well as a time stamp for each image. The information is then searched against specified databases that can aid in the identification and recovery of stolen vehicles. Database responses can be used to control access to specific locations or to cross-check for access violations.



NCIC vehicle data used by LPRs

The NCIC data supplied to agencies for use with LPRs includes vehicle information from the Vehicle, License Plate, Wanted Person, Protection Order, Missing Person, Gang, Known and Appropriately Suspected Terrorist, Supervised Release, and Immigration Violator Files and the National Sex Offender Registry.

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Busted...with an assist from NCIC

NCIC off-line search helps Marshals find missing 4-year-old in danger

On February 25, a U.S. marshal in Pennsylvania contacted the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Operations and Policy Unit (NOPU), indicating that sometime during the previous 2 weeks, a noncustodial parent in Pennsylvania kidnapped her 4-year-old child. She threatened to shoot the child and herself if law enforcement interfered. The marshals suspected the pair would travel to Florida and provided the NOPU with a New Jersey license plate associate with the suspect's vehicle. They requested that the NOPU perform an off-line search for any activity on the license plate.

The search revealed that an officer in Utah queried the license plate during a traffic stop on February 19. The NOPU returned the search results the same day. Marshals in Pennsylvania notified marshals in Utah about the encounter. Marshals there quickly located the car at the home of the suspect's sister. The marshals later followed the suspect and hostage to a gas station, apparently preparing to leave town. When the suspect went inside to pay, the marshals safely removed the child and retrieved a loaded firearm from the vehicle before arresting the woman.

The marshals in Pennsylvania had no indication that the suspect would be in Utah and would not have focused their efforts there without the NOPU's assistance.

Off-line search

For an off-line search, (NOPU) employees conduct a search of three sets of NCIC records: active records, purged records, and the transaction log. The search identifies matches to prior inquiries made to the NCIC as far back as 1990. Results are generated in a matter of minutes.

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The extract is compiled and refreshed twice a day and is provided to participating agencies via File Transfer Protocol (FTP) or secure e-mail.

The LPR Program was approved in June 2004 by the CJIS Advisory Policy Board (APB) and successfully piloted by the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Currently, 46 states, the District of Columbia, 33 local agencies, and 1 federal agency have formal agreements with the FBI to receive the NCIC information for the purpose of using LPRs.

Agencies share usefulness of NCIC vehicle data

In March 2011, the CJIS Division canvassed states and agencies participating in the LPR project. The agencies responding (which included 10 state agencies, 71 local agencies, and 1 federal agency) reported a total of 1,102 stolen vehicles recovered with a value of more than \$6.5 million, as well as contraband recovered that included stolen license plates, stolen property, vehicles, drugs, weapons, larceny proceeds, suspended registrations, credit cards, and a police badge. Also as a result of the LPR technology, participating agencies located 818 subjects listed in the Wanted Persons File and 19 listed in the Missing Persons File. Another 2,611 persons were apprehended.

About the NCIC Program

The mission of the NCIC Program is to provide real-time, accurate, and complete criminal justice and intelligence information that enables law enforcement and the intelligence communities to identify terrorists, apprehend fugitives, locate missing persons, identify unidentified persons, recover stolen property, and protect innocent persons. The NCIC Operations and Policy Unit is responsible for the management of the NCIC Program. The LPR Program is just one of many successful NCIC initiatives that help the CJIS Division’s law enforcement, national security, and intelligence community partners.

Law enforcement agencies that would like information on the LPR program can contact Ms. Buffy Bonafield at (304) 625-2752 or <buffy.bonafield@leo.gov>.

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most importantly, sign up for e-mail alerts to let you know about future editions.

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UCR Program continues to adapt, evolve

Cargo Theft data collection begun, changes to LEOKA and Hate Crime Statistics Programs set in motion

For more than 80 years the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program has been a gauge of crime in the Nation. But as someone once said, "The only constant is change." This article describes some of the changes that have occurred in the long history of the UCR Program, and changes yet to come.



When it was conceived in 1930, the UCR Program collected stats on crimes voluntarily reported, such as murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, from law enforcement agencies throughout the Nation. While the core crimes collected by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program remains much the same, from time to time the program has changed to meet the needs of customers who want to understand the scope of crime in America. For example, the UCR Program added arson data to its collection in 1979, and, since 1989, even more specific crime details can be extracted from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), a system that was implemented during that time.

The UCR Program and its data collections remain the most steadfast institutions in crime collection and analysis. Modifications that have occurred to the program have improved it over its long history, and the changes that are coming will continue to transform the program and make it even more robust.

Cargo Theft data collection underway

Following updates to its NIBRS software, the FBI began accepting test data via the NIBRS for cargo theft beginning in early 2010. (Cargo Theft was added to the list of crimes reported to the UCR Program

with the passage of the *USA Patriot Improvement and Re-authorization Act* of 2005. Congress directed that the UCR Program to collect information on cargo theft "to capture the essence of the national cargo theft crime problem and its negative effect on the United States economy.") Local or state agencies that want to update their software to include cargo theft should see the *NIBRS Addendum for Submitting Cargo Theft Data* (January 2010) at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr>.

Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted

While the UCR Program began collecting information on law enforcement officers killed in 1937, the development of the Analysis of "Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted" form in the early 1970s allowed the UCR Program to collect more specifics about the events in which officers are killed or assaulted. Now, not only has this form changed, but has been split into two separate forms. Since January 2011, law enforcement agencies have had the opportunity to report more detailed information by submitting the "Analysis of Officers Accidentally Killed" and the "Analysis of Officers Feloniously Killed and Assaulted."

Hate Crime Statistics

With the *Hate Crime Statistics Act* of 1990, the UCR Program began collecting data about crimes based on prejudice against race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. Changes have continued to improve the program. In 1994, bias against persons with disabilities was added to the act. Two bias-motivated murders that occurred in 1998 are leading to more changes in the Hate Crime Statistics Program in the near future.

Matthew Shepard was a 21-year-old gay student who was tortured and murdered in October 1998. James Byrd, Jr., was a 49-year-old African-American who was murdered by three white men who beat him and then dragged him to death behind a pick-up truck in June 1998. In response to these murders, Congress passed the *Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act* in 2009, which added biases because of gender and gender identity, as well as the directive to collect data on crimes committed by and

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crimes directed against juveniles. The FBI is making plans to implement the collection of these data.

Human Trafficking

The President signed the *William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act* in 2008, a law requiring the FBI to implement the collection of human trafficking data. With input from law enforcement members that are part of the CJIS Division's Advisory Process, the UCR Program has been developing specific definitions and data collection guidelines for these offenses. Program staff members intend to begin collecting human trafficking data in January 2013.

Using the data

In the 1930s, UCR data were first distributed in monthly pamphlets, then a few years later, quarterly. At the time of World War II, it was produced semi-annually, before becoming an annual publication in 1958. Today, the hardcopies are gone and UCR publications (including *Crime in the United States*, *Hate Crime Statistics*, and *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted*) are presented on the FBI's Web site at <www.fbi.gov>. In addition, in November 2010, the UCR Program went live with the UCR Data Tool, <<http://www.ucrdatatool.gov/>>, which allows researchers to build their own custom tables of data.

The Data Tool provides offense data for the Nation from 1960 through 2010, the most recent year for which the data are available. It also supplies offense data for city agencies 10,000 and over in population and county agencies 25,000 and over in population.

Looking to the future

With all of that, some of the biggest changes are yet to occur. To make better use of the technology available today, the UCR Redevelopment Project (UCRRP) team is in the process of redesigning the system that has supported the program for more than 30 years. A major focus of the UCRRP is to transfer all UCR submissions to an electronic interface by 2013. As part of this process, paper submissions and Portable Document Format files will no longer be accepted at that time. (UCRRP staff will be contacting state UCR Program managers and direct contributors currently submitting data on paper to ensure that each state is ready for paperless submissions in 2013.)

Since the beginning, the UCR Program has been willing to adapt and evolve to share information and meet the needs of law enforcement officers, government officials, students, reporters, and the public. That is the one constant about UCR that will never change.

For more information, visit <<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr>>. For questions, email <ucr@leo.gov>.

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Hoover initiated collection of data on officers killed

“On average of once a week, somewhere in the United States, a law enforcement officer is killed at the hands of the underworld. It is unfortunate that we do not possess accurate statistics upon this subject...” FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover commented at the International Association of Chiefs of Police’s convention in Kansas City, Missouri, in September 1936. (*Yearbook, International Association of Chiefs of Police, 1936-1937*, p. 15)

The following year, the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program began collecting limited information from selected agencies on officers who were killed while performing their duties. The data were published annually in *Crime in the United States (CIUS)* until, as a result of the *Analysis of Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* form in 1972, the UCR Program began annually publishing the *Law Enforcement Officers Killed Summary*.

Over the years, law enforcement has relied on the information from the Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted Program as a training tool for its officers. As a result of the value law enforcement places on the data and the descriptions of incidents in which officers have been feloniously killed, revisions have been made to the form since 1972. Starting this year, law enforcement agencies have been able to provide even more specific information that can be used to study these tragic incidents via more extensive data collection forms.

The 2010 edition of the modern Web publication *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* is set to be released in October. Find it online at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/>.

Sadly, Hoover never saw the collection of statistics he may have imagined decades before. The first edition of *Law Enforcement Officers Killed Summary* was published in 1973, but he died on May 2, 1972, after serving as FBI Director for 48 years.



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The FBI's CJIS Division Complex in Clarksburg, West Virginia, houses the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS), National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, Law Enforcement Online (LEO), and Law Enforcement National Data Exchange (N-DEX).